Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 9 and 17. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube comprising:

an insert portion introduced into the inside of a body, the insert portion having a tube passage, the tube passage being capable of passing a medical instrument internally, the insert portion guiding the medical instrument into the inside of a body through the tube passage;

a holding portion provided at the proximal end side of the insert portion in order to hold the proximal end side of the medical instrument inserted through the insert portion, the holding portion having an opening communicating with the tube passage of the insert portion;

a sealing member removably mounted to the opening of the holding portion, the sealing member having a first sealing portion coming into intimate contact with the medical instrument, the sealing member sealing a space between the medical instrument and the holding portion by this first sealing portion; and

a fixing member removably mounted to the sealing member, the fixing member adapted to fix the sealing member to the holding portion;

wherein an opening/closing valve for openably closing the opening of the holding portion is provided in the holding portion;

wherein the sealing member has a second sealing portion which abuts with an opening/closing valve in a sealed state and closes the opening of the holding portion in cooperation with the opening/closing valve; and

wherein the sealing member has a third sealing portion positioned to be spaced from the first sealing portion, the third sealing portion sealing a space between the medical instrument and the holding portion in intimate contact with the medical instrument.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Original). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the fixing member is turnably mounted to the holding portion.

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the opening/closing valve is a flap valve movable between a first position where the valve abuts with a second sealing portion and a second position where the valve is spaced from the second sealing portion.

Claim 6 (Original). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 5, wherein the opening/closing valve is always biased toward the first position.

Claim 7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the first and third sealing portions have holes through which the medical instruments can be inserted, respectively, and the hole diameter of the first sealing portion and that of the third sealing portion are differ from each other.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Original). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein a shoulder portion meshed with the fixing member is provided at the sealing member.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the sealing member is deformed by the fixing member when the fixing member contacts the sealing member.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the sealing member has an arm portion for causing the first and third sealing portions to be coupled with each other.

Claim 13 (Original). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 12, wherein the arm portion is oriented in the longitudinal axial direction of the insert portion while the sealing member is mounted to the holding portion.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 12, wherein the arm portion biases the third sealing portion toward a first position where the third sealing portion is arranged coaxially with the first sealing portion or

toward a second portion where the third sealing portion is distant from the first sealing portion by 180 degrees or over.

Claim 15 (Original). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the fixing member has a hole for restricting the inclination of the medical instrument sealed by the first sealing portion of the sealing member.

Claim 16 (Original). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the sealing member is sandwiched between the fixing member and the holding portion.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 1, wherein the first sealing portion of the sealing member has a hole through which the medical instrument can be inserted, and the diameter of the hole is changed by a hole diameter changeable member to be abutted with the sealing member.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn). A trocar sheath tube comprising:
a housing having a space therein;

a port for introducing a surgical instrument into the space of the housing;

an elongated insert portion having a tube passage communicating with the space of the housing;

a sealing means for closing the port in a sealed state; and

a fixing member for fixing the sealing means via a hinge,

wherein the sealing means is removably mounted to the housing and the fixing member is tunably mounted to the housing,

wherein the sealing means includes a first sealing portion coming into intimate contact with the surgical instrument, the sealing member sealing a space proximate the surgical instrument and a holding portion by this first sealing portion,

wherein an opening/closing valve for openably closing an opening of the holding portion is provided in the holding portion,

wherein the sealing member has a second sealing portion which abuts with the opening/closing valve in a sealed state and closes the opening of the holding portion in cooperation with the opening/closing valve; and

wherein the sealing member has a third sealing portion spaced from the first sealing portion, the third sealing portion

sealing a space between the surgical instrument and the holding portion in intimate contact with the medical instrument.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 19,

wherein the sealing means is formed of an elastic material and has a flexible lip portion which abuts in sealed state with a turnable flap valve in the housing to ensure air tightness.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 19,

wherein the sealing means is a duck bill valve formed of an elastic material.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 19,

wherein the sealing means is a slit valve formed of an elastic material.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 19,

wherein a shoulder portion meshed with the fixing member is provided on the periphery of the sealing means.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 8 wherein the hole of the third sealing portion has an inner diameter smaller than that of the hole of the first sealing portion, and the holes of the first and third sealing portions are arranged in line along a longitudinal direction of the insertion portion.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented). A trocar sheath tube according to claim 24 wherein the third sealing portion is elastically deformable to enlarge the inner diameter of the hole of the third sealing portion.